



February 16, 2018

We have now passed crossover and are looking to the end of this session on March 10. This **2018 VCBG Legislative Crossover Report** provides an overview of 30 priority and defensive priority bills. All bills that the VCBG is monitoring and managing are available for review on our website at <http://www.cgstatetrack.com/texis/statetrack/insession/viewrpt/main.html?event=4fb17f65481>. The focus for the remaining 30 days of the 2018 legislative session will be on the remaining bills we are monitoring and managing.

This session was largely a defensive session. Our legislative priorities were to:

- Support & Protect Brewery Expansions
- Protect Tasting Rooms – No Limits to On-Premise or Off-Premise Sales or Hours of Operation
- Protect Brewery to Brewery Transfers
- Protect Contract Brewing
- Maintain Regulatory Balance
- Oppose Play-to-Play
- Support VA Craft Beer Tourism
- Maintain Rural Character of VA Farm Breweries

This session was dominated by SB306 and HB422 that requires at least 20 percent of the volume of beer sold for on-premises consumption in any calendar year to be manufactured on the licensed premises. The VCBG's Leadership Council and Government Affairs Committee negotiated the final language in this bill with the Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association (VBWA) over a five-month period. Despite repeated attempts by the VRLTA to amend the bill to require 50+ percent of the volume of beer sold for on premises consumption to be manufactured on the licensed premises, the VBWA and VCBG have successfully defended against those amendments.

The remainder of this session will be focused on budget issues, such as funding for the Virginia Tourism Corporation, working the remaining bills, and educating newly elected Delegates about the fundamentals of the craft beer industry. We are also continuing to build a retailer coalition with peer groups that support us.

If you did not make it to the Day on the Hill or VA Craft Beer Caucus, feel free to contact us about a site visit during the remaining days of the session. Your Senators and Delegates want to hear from you. Your voice matters.

Best Wishes,

*Brett A. Vassey*

President & CEO

## **2018 VCBG LEGISLATIVE CROSSOVER REPORT OVERVIEW**

The 2018 Session of the General Assembly convened on January 10th and adjourns March 10th. This year is a 60-day General Assembly session. “**Crossover**” marks the halfway point of the session; this deadline dictates that each chamber must complete work on its own bills, except for the budget, and begin to consider only those bills “crossing over” from the other chamber. That milestone was reached on Tuesday, February 13.

The VCBG’s government affairs program is exclusively focused on ABC and direct brewery issues (e.g., brewery equipment taxes). The *VCBG Legislative Crossover Report* provides details on those “Priority and Defensive Priority” bills that we have managed and monitored as well as those we continue to manage and monitor. These bills area also updated every hour at <http://www.cgstatetrack.com/texis/statetrack/insession/viewrpt/main.html?event=4fb17f65481>.

To provide some context, there have been 3,125 total bills and resolutions introduced in the Senate and House – a 20% increase over 2017 and a 10% increase over 2016. 54% of all bills considered prior to crossover have passed. By comparison, the 2017 session ended with 62% of all bills passing and the 2016 legislative session ended with 55% of all bills respectively.

As with any organization, team work is critical. The VCBG Leadership Council, VCBG Government Affairs Committee, Members and key allies make up our team and contribute to our overall success. The VCBG is particularly thankful for the Delegates and Senators that support us as well as several peer organizations, such as the Virginia Wine Council, that have been instrumental in helping to shape our legislative agenda. We also have to recognize the collegiality and transparency that we share in negotiating legislation with the Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association – this is a relationship that has produced positive results for the VCBG and VBWA alike.

For assistance on how to make the most of grass roots advocacy or for more details about VCBG’s legislative resources, please contact Betty Arnold at [barnold@vacraftbrewersguild.com](mailto:barnold@vacraftbrewersguild.com).

# 2018 VCBG LEGISLATIVE CROSSOVER REPORT



## BUDGET BILLS



**Number:** VA [R] HB 30 - Updated (Status 01/19/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. S. Chris Jones (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Budget Bill.](#)

**Abstract:** Budget Bill. Appropriations of the Budget submitted by the Governor of Virginia in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-1509, Code of Virginia, and to provide a portion of revenues for the two years ending respectively on the thirtieth day of June, 2019, and the thirtieth day of June, 2020.

**Status:** [House: Budget amendments available - 01/18/2018](#)

**Position:** Support

**Priority:** High

**Notes:** Bill has funding for the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC). The VTC supports Craft Beer Month and promotions for Virginia craft beer tourism.



**Number:** VA [R] SB 30 - Updated (Status 01/19/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Thomas Norment (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Budget Bill.](#)

**Abstract:** Budget Bill. Appropriations of the Budget submitted by the Governor of Virginia in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-1509, Code of Virginia, and to provide a portion of revenues for the two years ending respectively on the thirtieth day of June, 2019, and the thirtieth day of June, 2020.

**Status:** [Senate: Budget amendments available - 01/18/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** High

**Notes:** Bill has funding for the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC). The VTC supports Craft Beer Month and promotions for Virginia craft beer tourism.

# PRIORITY & DEFENSIVE BILLS

**Number:** VA [R] HB 286 - Updated (Status 02/16/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Richard Bell (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Food and drink sanitary requirements; exception for dogs in wineries.](#)  
**Abstract:** Provides that dogs may be allowed inside or on the premises of a licensed winery or farm winery, except in any area used for the manufacture of food products. Current law provides that no animal shall be permitted in any area used for the manufacture of food products, with certain exceptions for guard or guide animals.  
**Status:** [Senate: Rereferred to Finance - 02/15/2018](#)  
**Position:** Neutral  
**Priority:** Medium  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** VCBG is monitoring the bill for future action. This is a VA Wine Council bill. Breweries are mixed on the issue. One has been sued for dog bite in the brewery. Several have commented that disallowing dogs has been easy with VDACS regulation. Others think it's a market advantage

**Number:** VA [R] HB 422 - Updated (Text 02/08/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. David Bulova (DEM-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; sales by brewery on licensed premises.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; sales by brewery on licensed premises. Requires that when a brewery licensee sells at retail the brands of beer that the brewery owns, at least 20 percent of the volume of beer sold for on-premises consumption in any calendar year shall be manufactured on the licensed premises. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2019, with a further delayed effective date of April 30, 2022, for a brewery that has entered into (i) a performance agreement with the Commonwealth of Virginia Development Opportunity Fund on or about April 20, 2016; (ii) a performance agreement entitled ""Regarding Operation Period Economic Development Grant"" on or about April 20, 2016; and (iii) a commercial lease agreement on or about April 14, 2017.  
**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/06/2018](#)  
**Position:** Neutral  
**Priority:** High  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** This is a VBWA bill. The final language, including the amendments adopted in committee, were negotiated between VBWA and VCBG over 6 months. ABC will develop a circular that will define "manufacturing" as broadly as the definition by which one receives a manufacturers/brewery license. It will also direct that this bill does not affect brewpubs or contract brewing. Based upon the delayed effective date, it is likely that it will be 2020 before ABC enforcement takes place. VRLTA is lobbying to increase the on-premise manufacturing % for on-premise consumption to 50%. VCBG members must contact their Senators and Delegates to assure that they DO NOT accept any amendments to the bill.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 547 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Nicholas Freitas (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; brewery licensees.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; brewery licensees. Provides that brewery licensees, like farm

winery licensees, may sell at retail the brands of beer that the brewery owns not only at its own premises but also at a maximum of five additional retail establishments of the licensee designated in the license.

**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** High

**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** Current law allows for unlimited retailing as long as there is a brewery on the premise. Nothing in this bill can be allowed to interfere with that privilege. The patron did not discuss this bill with anyone in the beer industry, including the VCBG. It is the California beer law.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 619 - Updated (Status 02/16/2018)

**Sponsor:** Jennifer Carroll Foy

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by interdicted persons.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; interdiction; possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by interdicted persons; repeal. Repeals provisions allowing for a court to enter an order of interdiction prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to any person who has (i) been convicted of driving any automobile, truck, motorcycle, engine, or train while intoxicated; (ii) shown himself to be a habitual drunkard; (iii) been found guilty of the illegal manufacture, possession, transportation, or sale of alcoholic beverages; or (iv) been found guilty of maintaining a common nuisance. The bill also repeals the provisions making it a Class 1 misdemeanor for (a) any person to sell alcoholic beverages to any individual when at the time of such sale he knows or has reason to believe that the individual ...

**Status:** [House: Left in Courts of Justice - 02/15/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 654 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. Kathleen Murphy (DEM-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee, commission from sales on licensed premises, etc.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee; commission from sales on licensed premises; samples; hours of operation; markup. Requires the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (the Authority) to pay a licensed distiller a commission of 25 percent of the retail price of any spirits sold by the distiller at a government store on his licensed premises and prohibits the Authority from imposing a markup when reselling such spirits to the licensee. The bill allows such stores to operate on Sundays after 10:00 a.m. and allows licensed distillers to include in samples mixers consisting of other alcoholic beverages not manufactured on the licensed premises. The bill also increases the number of banquet licenses for special events a licensed distiller may purchase per year from four to eight and ...

**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 714 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Richard Bell (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Building Code; provisions for buildings & structures in rural areas.](#)  
**Abstract:** Uniform Statewide Building Code; Board of Housing and Community Development; provisions for buildings and structures in rural areas in which commercial enterprises are located. Directs the Board of Housing and Community Development to make amendments to the Uniform Statewide Building Code applicable to buildings and structures in rural areas in which commercial enterprises are located. The bill provides that the amendments shall not apply to any building or structure for which (i) a building permit has been issued or on which construction has commenced or (ii) working drawings have been prepared in the year prior to the effective date of the amendments. The bill also requires the Board to establish guidelines for the adequate training of building officials, enforcement personnel, ...  
**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)  
**Position:** Support  
**Priority:** High  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** This bill and HB1224 will be carried over through a working group that will include the VCBG to develop a uniform statewide approach to rural buildings and structures used for farm wineries and breweries. This is a VA Wine Council bill.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 820 - Updated (Status 02/09/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Barry Knight (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; delivery of wine or beer to retail, wholesaler requirement.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; delivery of wine or beer to retail licensee; wholesaler requirement. Requires that before any wine or beer may be delivered to a retail licensee for resale, such wine or beer first be delivered to the licensed premises of a wine or beer wholesaler, unloaded from the transporting vehicle, kept on the licensed premises of the wholesaler for not less than four hours prior to reloading on a vehicle, and recorded in the wholesaler's inventory. The bill exempts any holder of a restricted wholesale wine license issued pursuant to § 4.1-207.1 from the requirement to keep the wine or beer on the licensed premises of the wholesaler for not less than four hours prior to reloading on a vehicle.  
**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/08/2018](#)  
**Position:** Oppose  
Amend  
**Priority:** Low  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** This is a VBWA bill. This injects a 4 hour delay into every bill shipped through a distributor. It ignores the current ERM/ERP technologies that allow for just-in-time delivery of product from the brewery and will preclude expedited delivery of low volume orders that are important to small craft beer. The proponents claim to want to limit the ability of faux distributors to have contract beer or wine produced and shipped directly from the manufacturer to the retailer.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 826 - Updated (Text, Status 02/15/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Barry Knight (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; increases general license application fee.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control. Increases the alcoholic beverage general license application fee from \$65 to \$195. The bill also increases the application fee for mixed beverage

special event licenses from \$15 to \$45 and increases the state tax on wine shipper's licenses, beer shipper's licenses, and wine and beer shipper's licenses from \$95 to \$230. The bill establishes that it is a Class 1 misdemeanor for (i) any person to sell wine to retailers or consumers without paying the wine excise tax or (ii) any retailer to purchase, receive, transport, store, or sell any wine on which such retailer has reason to know such tax has not been paid and may not be paid. The bill provides for a civil penalty for (a) each manufacturer or wholesaler who fails to make any return and pay the full amount of

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**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** High

**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** Increased fees for ABC must be accompanied by commitments to increase label approval times, online tax payments, and a guarantee from the legislature that new funds will be kept in the ABC and not swept into the General Fund.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 910 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. R. Steven Landes (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; breweries that manufacture less than 5,000 barrels of beer per year.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; Beer Franchise Act. Exempts the purchase of a brewery that manufactures less than 5,000 barrels of beer per year from the requirement that the purchaser become obligated to all of the terms and conditions of the selling brewery's agreements with distributors in effect on the date of purchase. The bill reduces from 90 to 45 the number of days in which a brewery must provide a wholesaler prior written notice of any intent to amend, terminate, cancel, or not renew any agreement. The bill reduces from 60 to 30 the number of days in which a wholesaler may attempt to rectify the condition or conditions that led the brewery to provide notice of its intent to amend, terminate, cancel, or not renew the agreement. The bill reduces from 90 to 45 the number of days in which ...

**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1224 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. Timothy Hugo (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Uniform Statewide Building Code; applicability to farm buildings and structures.](#)

**Abstract:** Uniform Statewide Building Code; applicability to farm buildings and structures. Provides that the current exemption for farm buildings and structures from the Uniform Statewide Building Code does not apply if a building or a portion of a building is operated as a licensed winery or farm winery or brewery under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act (§ 4.1-100 et seq.). The bill has a two-year delayed effective date to allow existing structures to come into compliance with the Uniform Statewide Building Code.

**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Oppose/Amend

**Priority:** High

**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** Requires UBC standards to apply to Farm Breweries and Farm Wineries.

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1379 - Updated (Status 02/09/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Roxann Robinson (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; records of retail licensees.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; records of retail licensees. Establishes that electronic records of retail licensees may be stored off site, provided that such records are readily retrievable and available for electronic inspection by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (Board) or its special agents at the licensed premises. The bill provides that in the case that such electronic records are not readily available for electronic inspection on the licensed premises, the retail licensee may obtain Board approval, for good cause shown, to permit the licensee to provide the records to a special agent of the Board within three business days after a request is made to inspect the records.  
**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/08/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1400 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Christopher T. Head (by request)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee, commission for sales on licensed premises.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee; commission for sales on licensed premises. Requires the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority to pay a licensed distiller a commission of 20 percent of the retail price of any spirits sold by the distiller at a government store on the licensed premises.  
**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1484 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Benjamin Cline (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller's license, remote store location and tasting room.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; distiller's license; remote store location and tasting room. Allows a distiller licensee who operates a government store for the sale of spirits to add to the license one additional location that is not on the licensed premises (i) to conduct tastings and (ii) for the sale of spirits.  
**Status:** [House: Left in General Laws - 02/13/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1520 - Updated (Status 02/09/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Del. Richard Sullivan (DEM-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; exemptions from licensure certain nonprofit swim clubs.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; exemptions from licensure; nonprofit swim clubs. Allows any private swim club operated by a duly organized nonprofit corporation or association to allow its members to bring lawfully acquired alcoholic beverages onto the premises of such club and consume such alcoholic beverages on the premises of such club.  
**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/08/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor



**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1541 - Updated (Text 02/16/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. R. Steven Landes (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; creates a new limited mixed beverage license for retail cigar shops.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; limited mixed beverage license for retail cigar shops. Creates a new limited mixed beverage license for retail cigar shops. The bill sets out the privileges of this new license, including a requirement that at least 60 percent of the licensee's annual gross revenue be from the sale of premium tobacco products. The bill also defines "'cigar shop'" and sets out the state and local license taxes for this license.

**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HB 1602 - Updated (Text, Status 02/15/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. Christopher Peace (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; creates confectionery license.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; confectionery license. Creates a confectionery license, which authorizes the licensee to prepare and sell confectionery that contains five percent or less alcohol by volume. The bill establishes state and local fees for confectionery licenses and provides that in no event shall the sale of confectionery containing alcohol exceed 10 percent of the total annual gross sales of all confectionery and other food.

**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HJ 90 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. Roxann Robinson (REP-VA)

**Title:** [National Beer Day; designating as April 7, 2019, and each succeeding year thereafter.](#)

**Abstract:** Designates April 7, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as National Beer Day in Virginia. The resolution incorporates HJ 116.

**Status:** [Senate: Referred to Committee on Rules - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Neutral

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] HJ 116 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Del. Dave LaRock (REP-VA)

**Title:** [National Beer Day; designating as April 7, 2019, and each succeeding year thereafter.](#)

**Abstract:** Designates April 7, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as National Beer Day in Virginia. This resolution was incorporated into HJ 90.

**Status:** [House: Left in Rules - 02/13/2018](#)

**Position:** Neutral

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 233 - Updated (Status 01/13/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Emmett Hanger (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; point-of-sale advertising limit.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; point-of-sale advertising limit. Increases from \$40 to \$99 the amount per item a manufacturer or its authorized vendor and a wholesale wine and beer licensee may lend, buy for, or give to a retail licensee for alcoholic beverage advertising material.  
**Status:** [Senate: Stricken at request of Patron in Rehabilitation and Social Services \(14-Y 0-N\) - 01/12/2018](#)  
**Position:** Oppose  
**Priority:** High  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** VCBG does not support pay-to-play legislation.

**Number:** VA [R] SB 306 - Updated (Status 02/16/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Ryan McDougle (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; sales by brewery on licensed premises, effective date.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; sales by brewery on licensed premises. Requires that at least 20 percent of the volume of beer sold by a brewery licensee for on-premises consumption in any calendar year be manufactured on the licensed premises. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2019.  
**Status:** [House: Reported from General Laws with amendment \(22-Y 0-N\) - 02/15/2018](#)  
**Position:** Neutral  
**Priority:** High  
**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** This is a VBWA bill. The final language, including the amendments adopted in committee, were negotiated between VBWA and VCBG over 6 months. ABC will develop a circular that will define "manufacturing" as broadly as the definition by which one receives a manufacturers/brewery license. It will also direct that this bill does not affect brewpubs or contract brewing. Based upon the delayed effective date, it is likely that it will be 2020 before ABC enforcement takes place. VRLTA is lobbying to increase the on-premise manufacturing % for on-premise consumption to 50%. VCBG members must contact their Senators and Delegates to assure that they DO NOT accept any amendments to the bill.

**Number:** VA [R] SB 382 - Updated (Status 02/16/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Benton Chafin (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; delivery of wine or beer to retail licensee, wholesaler requirement.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; delivery of wine or beer to retail licensee; wholesaler requirement. Requires that before any wine or beer may be delivered to a retail licensee for resale, such wine or beer must first be (i) delivered to the licensed premises of a wine or beer wholesaler and unloaded, (ii) kept on the licensed premises of the wholesaler for not less than four hours prior to reloading on a vehicle, and (iii) recorded in the wholesaler's inventory. The bill exempts from the provisions in clause (ii) holders of a restricted wholesale wine license.  
**Status:** [House: Reported from General Laws \(22-Y 0-N\) - 02/15/2018](#)  
**Position:** Oppose  
Amend  
**Priority:** Low

**Notes:** **VCBG Defensive Priority Bill.** This is a VBWA bill. This bill creates inefficiency in beer deliveries from the manufacturer to the wholesaler. Proponents are trying to limit faux distributors from arranging for breweries and wineries to contract for product to be direct delivered to retailers. Unfortunately, the consequence of the bill is that it will eliminate any opportunity for just-in-time deliveries of small volume products from craft breweries that are not already in the wholesalers' warehouse. There should be an annual exemption for legitimate businesses if approved by the ABC.

**Number:** VA [R] SB 483 - Updated (Status 02/03/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Bryce Reeves (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller's license, remote store location and tasting room.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; distiller's license; remote store location and tasting room. Allows a distiller licensee who operates a government store for the sale of spirits to add to the license one additional location that is not on the licensed premises (i) to conduct tastings and (ii) for the sale of spirits.

**Status:** [Senate: Stricken at request of Patron in Rehabilitation and Social Services \(13-Y 0-N\) - 02/02/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 486 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Bryce Reeves (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee, samples, etc.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; distiller licensee; samples; hours of operation. Allows government stores established on the premises of a licensed distillery to operate on Sundays after 10:00 a.m. and allows licensed distillers to include in samples spirits or mixers not manufactured on the licensed premises, provided that at least 75 percent of the spirits used are manufactured on the premises. The bill also increases the number of banquet licenses for special events a licensed distiller may purchase per year from four to eight and allows the licensee to sell samples of spirits at such special events.

**Status:** [House: Referred to Committee on General Laws - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 647 - Updated (Status 02/14/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Jeremy McPike (DEM-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; applications for licenses, removes certain requirement.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control (ABC); applications for licenses. Removes the requirement that applicants for certain ABC licenses provide a statement, under oath, setting forth any information required by the Board of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. The bill replaces such requirement with a provision that requires applicants to provide a written statement swearing and affirming that all of the information contained in the application is true.

**Status:** [House: Referred to Committee on General Laws - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Medium

**Number:** VA [R] SB 695 - Updated (Text 02/16/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Lynwood Lewis (DEM-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; creates an Internet beer retailer license, definition.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; Internet beer retailers. Creates an Internet beer retailer license, establishes the privileges of and fee for the license, and defines ""Internet beer retailer.""  
**Status:** [House: Assigned GL sub: Subcommittee #3 - 02/13/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** High  
**Notes:** VCBG Defensive Priority Bill. Will enable "beer of the month" club type sales.

**Number:** VA [R] SB 730 - Updated (Status 01/30/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Bill DeSteph (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Virginia Freedom of Information Act; clarifies definition of ""public record.""](#)  
**Abstract:** Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Clarifies that the definition of ""public record"" does not include records that are not prepared for or used in the transaction of public business. The bill defines ""social media account"" and creates a new discretionary exemption for social media records of General Assembly members when such records relate to the use of a social media account by a member in such member's individual capacity. The bill requires the public body to be a necessary party in any enforcement proceeding.  
**Status:** [Senate: Passed by indefinitely in General Laws and Technology with letter \(10-Y 0-N\) - 01/29/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** Low  
**Notes:** This bill may set a precedent whereby breweries' employees' social media accounts are exempt from regulation if the personal social media accounts of a legislator are exempt from public scrutiny. VA ABC regulates speech on all social media for breweries.

**Number:** VA [R] SB 756 - Updated (Status 02/03/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Glen Sturtevant (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; conduct not prohibited, etc.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; conduct not prohibited; donations of beer by brewery licensees to charitable nonprofit mixed beverage special event licensees or banquet licensees. Provides that any brewery licensee may donate beer that it has manufactured and any (i) mixed beverage special events licensee or (ii) banquet licensee that is a charitable nonprofit corporation or association that is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code may accept and serve such beer for on-premises consumption at the licensed charitable special event. The bill also permits brewery licensees to sponsor charitable events.  
**Status:** [Senate: Passed by indefinitely in Rehabilitation and Social Services \(13-Y 0-N\) - 02/02/2018](#)  
**Position:** Monitor  
**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 773 - Updated (Status 01/27/2018)  
**Sponsor:** Sen. Bill DeSteph (REP-VA)  
**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; reduces food-to-beverage ratio for mixed beverage licensees.](#)  
**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control (ABC); food-to-beverage ratio. Reduces the current 45

percent food-to-beverage ratio for mixed beverage licensees. The bill requires that a mixed beverage restaurant, caterer's, or limited caterer's licensee meet or exceed the following: (i) for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$4,000 but less than \$10,000, the food-to-beverage ratio shall be 35 percent; and (ii) for such licensees with monthly food sales of at least \$10,000, there shall be no food-to-beverage ratio requirement imposed.

**Status:** [Senate: Continued to 2019 in Rehabilitation and Social Services \(15-Y 0-N\) - 01/26/2018](#)

**Position:** Neutral

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 803 - Updated (Text 02/16/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Bryce Reeves (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; sales conducted at government stores established.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control; sales conducted at government stores established by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board on a distiller's licensed premises; disposition of markup profits. Provides that any reasonable markup imposed by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board pursuant to subdivision A 2 of § 4.1-235 on spirits sold at a government store established on a distiller's licensed premises shall be retained by such distiller. The provisions of the bill are contingent on funding in a general appropriation act.

**Status:** [House: Referred to Committee on Appropriations - 02/14/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low

**Number:** VA [R] SB 884 - Updated (Status 02/16/2018)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Ryan McDougle (REP-VA)

**Title:** [Alcoholic beverage control; increases general license application fee.](#)

**Abstract:** Alcoholic beverage control. Increases the alcoholic beverage general license application fee from \$65 to \$195. The bill also increases the application fee for mixed beverage special event licenses from \$15 to \$45 and increases the state tax on wine shipper's licenses, beer shipper's licenses, and wine and beer shipper's licenses from \$95 to \$230. The bill establishes that it is a Class 1 misdemeanor for (i) any person to sell wine to retailers or consumers without paying the wine excise tax or (ii) any retailer to purchase, receive, transport, store, or sell any wine on which such retailer has reason to know such tax has not been paid and may not be paid. The bill provides for a civil penalty for (a) each manufacturer or wholesaler who fails to make any return and pay the full amount.

**Status:** [House: Referred to Committee on Appropriations - 02/15/2018](#)

**Position:** Monitor

**Priority:** Low